

Draft
Snowmobile Advisory Council Meeting
December 6, 2012
IF&W Office Sidney – 1 PM to 3:30 PM

In attendance:

Advisory Committee Members

Marie Candeloro – Kokadjo Roach Riders
Bob Hansen – MSA Trails
Rick LeVasseur – Jo Mary Riders
Scott Clements – Newburgh Country Side Riders
Gordon Gamble – Wagner Forest Management
Paul Napolitano – Ragged Riders
Richard Merrill – Snow Valley Sno-Goers
Ken Ingalls – Anson North Anson – MSA
Jim Yearwood – Northern Outdoors Forks

Not Present

Terry Hill

Division of Parks and Public Lands

Scott Ramsay – Director, Off Road Vehicle Unit
Lana LaPlant-Ellis, Planner, Off Road Vehicle Unit
Joe Higgins – Snowmobile Program, Off Road Vehicle Unit

Participants

Sue Mackey Andrews – Piscataquis County Economic Development Commission

Scott Ramsay started the meeting by welcoming and thanking the committee members and interested parties for attending. Introductions were made around the room.

Election of Vice Chair:

Marie Candeloro nominated Paul Napolitano, Rick LeVasseur seconded. The vote was unanimous. Paul Napolitano voted in as Vice Chair.

Discussion:

The meeting was turned over to Rick. Bob Hansen handed out updated “Registration Increase Data” sheets based on discussions at the last meeting. This new information included a breakdown of increases in non-resident snowmobile registrations. Bob broke the grants data into 3 categories – Municipal Grants funded at 90% and Club Grants funded at 70% and 90%. The required registration increase to meet 90% Municipal would be \$12.37, to reach 70% Club Grants would be \$3.94 and 90% would be \$8.15. Bob also included a non-resident increase of \$5.00 for 3 day and \$10.00 for seasonal. This increase would off set the residential registration increase. This handout also included blanket proposal for a late fee of \$10.00 for residential and non residential seasonal. This would generate \$1,233,620 assuming 40 percent registration after

December 1st. There was much discussion to change the late registration date to January 1st due to Christmas gift giving, etc. Bob indicated that MSA voted to establish a \$20.00 late registration fee after December 1st. For the reason noted above he is going to discuss, with MSA, changing the date to January 1st. It was decided that if the MSA submits legislation that does not negate the Snowmobile Advisory Council from submitting their own. Most likely all related bills would be combined in the Legislative process.

Dick Merrill presented information from a multi-club meeting in which 10 clubs participated. The funding issue was the focal point of this meeting.

Outcomes:

- ❖ No new ITS or corridor trails should be developed
- ❖ New clubs should get a \$3,800 club grant
- ❖ Keep the municipal grant the same at 70%
- ❖ Keep the Capital Equipment Grant Program
- ❖ Increase the registration \$15.00
- ❖ If the registering individual belongs to MSA the registration would go down \$5.00
- ❖ Revenue from the registration increase would go to the trail fund
- ❖ All but 1 out of the 10 clubs represented favored a late fee.

Scott handed out the Off Road Vehicle Income and Expenditures Report and reviewed it with Committee members. A member asked for a breakdown of what registration fees were in effect for the years listed in the Report. The IF&W has been asked for the December 1st, December 15th, and January 1st registration numbers from last year.

There was much discussion about late fees, raising residential and non-residential registrations and adding a 7 day non-residential registration.

MOTIONS:

- 1) Paul Napolitano – Establish a late fee of \$20.00 for residents and non-resident seasonal who register after December 31st with all money going to the trail fund.

Marie – seconded

- 1A) Bob Hansen amended the motion - \$10.00 registration increase for all residential and non-residential seasonal and a \$5.00 increase for 3 day non-residential registrations and a \$20.00 late fee for residents and non-resident seasonal who register after December 31st with money from the late fee going to the trail fund.

VOTE: 6 yes and 3 no – motion carries

- 2) Dick Merrill – The registration increases and the \$20.00 late fee should all be directed to the trail fund.

Bob Hansen – seconded

VOTE: 9 yes and 0 no – motion carries

Note: There was some concern that this was not a big enough increase.

- 3) Marie Candeloro – Move the Capital Equipment fund to the Grooming fund and abolish the capital equipment program

Paul Napolitano – seconded

Marie withdrew the motion and Paul seconded

- 4) Rick Levassuer – Bring back the 7 day non-residential registration for \$65.00.

Scott Clement – seconded

VOTE: 7 yes, 2 abstained – motion carries

Sue Mackey Andrews said this appears to be a long term problem and thought that any Legislation introduced should be robust and that the discussions today appeared to be more of a band aid approach. Maybe a multi-tiered system that increases registration over time? This is something to think about and discuss at the next meeting.

Cloture for bills submitted by a member of the Legislator is January 18th at 4:00 PM.